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HEALTH
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Billingham Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Senior Public Health Inspector

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Health Department,
Council Offices,
Haverton Hill,
Billingham,
June, 1959.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for the year, 1958.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me much pleasure to present my 17th Annual Report, that is for the year, 1958.

A study of the diphtheria immunisation tables show that the general practitioners have been active in immunising the younger age groups with triple antigen against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. Many infants were immunised early in infancy as whooping cough is then such a serious disease. Personal record cards of immunisation injections undertaken are available, but it has been so far impossible to induce all parents to keep these permanent records for their children. The chief value of tetanus immunisation is to enable doctors, including casualty surgeons, to use a harmless boosting dose of tetanus antigen in cases of injury or suspected tetanus infection in place of a dose of anti-tetanus serum with its attendant risk of serum sensitization. It is therefore important that records of immunisations are available for all cases of injury seen by casualty surgeons or general practitioners.

The immunisation nurses do most valuable work in addition to that done by the general practitioner in achieving a total of almost 60% of babies immunised before one year old. At present the nurses are using combined antigen for diphtheria and whooping cough only, but no doubt better results would be obtained with triple antigen as used by the doctors. They are also very successful in distributing personal records for the parents to keep. A copy of all immunisations performed at local authority clinics should be given to all general practitioners to ensure that their records are also complete.

Polio immunisation proceeded steadily during the year, so that by the end of December, 1958, 38.7 per cent. of children had been immunised since the scheme began. Very few expectant mothers were given polio vaccine. This disappointing result is probably linked with the further disappointing fall in clinic attendances.

It is indeed unfortunate that the attendance of expectant mothers at the local authority ante-natal clinics has fallen further to a new low level.

At these clinics some attempt at prevention and treatment of both minor or more serious ailments is made as well as education in parentcraft, i.e., talks on feeding, bathing and clothing the new baby, sleep needs, protection against illness and disease, habit training, making and mending clothes, home cooking and laundry, care of the skin, teeth and eyes, ears, nose, feet, etc., as well as tests of vision, hearing and intelligence and of general health.

It is impossible to cover all these subjects in a hospital ante-natal clinic or in a doctor's surgery.

It would indeed be a good thing if doctors could make more use of the clinics, of the staff and of the educational material available there, where possible doing their own sessions on the premises. Midwives also should be able to make use of the premises and facilities of the local authority's ante-natal clinics.

An attempt at prevention of toxæmia and of prematurity is also made at the clinics by a high protein, low carbohydrate diet and careful restriction of weight gain to not more than 15 lbs. for the whole pregnancy.

Through the mother's example the eating habits of the whole family may perhaps be changed with consequent general improvement of health. Faulty diet with over eating of sweets, starches and fattening foods and the obesity which follows is probably the biggest cause of ill-health and premature death to-day. Many of us suffer needlessly from being too fat and many of us cut short our own lives through self indulgence.

Cigarette smoking and polluted air are two more quite unnecessary and needless contributions towards ill-health.

The birth rate was 26.9 which is somewhat lower than the peak rate of 30.6 last year, but this is still a high birth rate. The death rate was 8 and the still birth rate 28.

There has been a dramatic fall in the infantile mortality rate from 40 last year to 23.8 this year. This is the first big fall in the infantile mortality rate that Billingham has experienced and it brings the rate almost to the level of the national average. In actual numbers of babies lost the fall was much less, but the big increase in births in 1958 reduced

the infantile mortality rate to the lowest figure ever recorded on Tees-Side.

	1955	1956	1957	1958
Infantile Deaths	20	21	28	18
Still Births ...	9	16	22	15
Births ...	637	670	697	756
I.M. Rate ...	31.4	31.3	40.1	23.8

The improvement has been in all parts of Billingham but by far the biggest improvement in infant mortality has been in our black spot, Haverton Hill.

There has also been a striking improvement in old Billingham. However, the numbers concerned for one year only are small so it is to be hoped that this is not just a flash in the pan.

It is an interesting fact that the number of girls and boys born was exactly equal, although the number of boys under one year dying was eleven compared with seven girls.

Food Poisoning and Sonne Dysentery.

There was no case of food poisoning notified, but early in the year there was a widespread outbreak of Sonne dysentery, chiefly in the nursery and schools beginning in Haverton Hill, spreading widely throughout the area and persisting for many months.

Home Safety Committee.

The Home Safety Committee was formed in 1955. The inaugural meeting was held on the 22nd February of that year and was attended by Mrs. Duncan for the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. Since then meetings have been held every alternate month. Three film shows were given in 1958 on various aspects of prevention of accidents, but the experiment of a film show for cubs and scouts held in the Chilton's Hall in 1957 was not repeated. Instead, towards the end of the year a poster competition for school children was organised. This was a great success. Five schools took part and a total entry of ninety posters was received. The posters were all so very good that the work of judging, undertaken by Mr. S. Bell of Tintern Avenue, Billingham, was very difficult and so it was decided to award three prizes of 10/-d., 7/6d. and 5/-d. together with seventeen prizes of 2/6d. each, all in the form of National Savings Stamps on a suitable greetings card. The prizes were presented by Councillor J. V. Kane, Chairman of the Council, assisted by Councillor Mrs. McLean, Chairman of the Home Safety Committee.

Chiropody Service.

Early in 1956 the Women's Voluntary Service under Councillor Mrs. J. McLean, J.P., B.E.M., organised a chiropody service for old aged pensioners. Appointments are made both morning and afternoon for sessions held each Monday in the Women's Voluntary Service hut at South View. Tea is served as required by the members of the Women's Voluntary Service. At first twenty people received treatment, but later the number was extended to forty a day.

The chiropodist generously charges a reduced fee and the patients contribute 2/6d. (or less as funds permit) for a sitting.

This scheme, helped by voluntary subscriptions, has proved a popular and valuable health measure for elderly people in the Urban District.

Meals on Wheels.

This is another activity, generously undertaken by the Women's Voluntary Service, which fulfils a social need and at the same time benefits the health of old people or of old couples living alone.

A van was presented by the I.C.I. Ltd., and Billingham Urban District Council and Durham County Council share the cost of the scheme. A start was made in October, 1958 and by the end of the year over sixty people were supplied with a hot mid-day meal once a week. One hundred and twenty-nine meals were served in October and this had increased to 349 meals in December.

A two course meal is supplied through the kindness of the Industrial Canteen at Furness Shipyard, at a cost of 1/10d and each person receiving the meal pays 10d.

Darby and Joan clubs are active in all areas and through voluntary efforts welfare work has considerably improved the lot of the elderly in Billingham.

At the same time with the continued shortage of health visitors and poor attendances at the clinics coupled with the big rise in births, welfare work for the very young has diminished somewhat.

However, an optimistic view should be taken of the health of the district over the year. There has been no outbreak of infectious disease, no rise in morbidity and the vital statistics are all good.

I would like to acknowledge the assistance given by the

County Council in supplying data of services provided in the district, the Women's Voluntary Service for their help, and other departments of the District Council for their help.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their valuable support and interest in the work of the Health Department, also the members of the staff of the Health Department for their co-operation and assistance throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
L. R. BENHAM.

Staff :—

Medical Officer of Health :
Lalage R. Benham, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Senior Public Health Inspector :
A. H. Rushworth, C.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I,
Deputy Public Health Inspector :
R. Love, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I,
Pupil Public Health Inspector :
R. E. Lund.
Clerks :
R. Ingram, D. M. Baker and A. L. Blane.

Population.

The resident population of the Urban District at mid-year was estimated by the Registrar General at 28,090 and my figures have been calculated on this basis.

Births.

During the year the number of live births was 756 made up of 378 males and 378 females, an increase of 59 on 1957. The increase was made up by 7 male and 52 female births.

The birth rate is 26.9 per 1,000 of the population.

Twenty-seven births (16 male and 11 female) were illegitimate.

There were 15 still births (7 male and 8 female) with a still-birth rate of 28.1 per 1,000 total births.

Last year's figures were 22 still births (12 male and 10 female) with a rate of 30.6. This varies very much less than the infantile mortality rate.

Deaths.

The total number of deaths registered was 226 which was 16 fewer than in 1957. There were 139 males and 87 females giving a death rate of 8.05 per 1,000 of the population, and, of this the largest incidence was from :—

Disease	Male	Female	Total
Coronary Disease—Angina ...	27	10	37
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	17	18	35
Neoplasms—various sites ...	26	17	43
Heart Disease ...	16	12	28
Pneumonia ...	9	3	12
Bronchitis ...	10	3	13

Infant Deaths under One Year

There were 18 deaths in children under one year of age (11 male and 7 female). The infantile death rate is 23.8 per 1,000 live births.

Infants Deaths under Four Weeks

Twelve children (7 males and 5 females) died under four weeks' of age. Six of these died within the first 24 hours of life.

Comparison of Infantile Death Rate

Billingham 23.8 England & Wales 22.5

The infantile death rate for Billingham is 16.3 lower than last year and only 1.3 higher than the rate for England and Wales.

Total infant deaths under 1 day, 1 week, 1 month and one year were 18. Fifteen of the infants died in hospital and 3 at home, and the primary causes of death could be classified as follows :—

Disease	1 day or under	under one week	under one month	under one year	Total
Prematurity	3	4	—	—	7
Respiratory Disease	—	—	1	3	4
Congenital Conditions	3	1	—	—	4
Accidental	—	—	—	1	1
Gastro Enteritis	—	—	—	1	1
Intussusception	—	—	—	1	1
Totals :	6	5	1	6	18

The following table gives the infant deaths in the various areas for the years 1958 and 1957. The infantile mortality rates are also given and the births for the same period :—

- Area 1 ... Haverton Hill with Port Clarence and Cowpen Bewley.
 „ 2 ... Pre-war Billingham (south of the railway).
 „ 3 ... The new town (north of the railway).

Areas		Deaths		Births		I.M. Rate	
		1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957
Haverton	1	2	9	189	182	10.6	49
South	2	5	8	131	116	38	69
North	3	11	11	436	399	25.2	27.6

Still Births

There were 15 still births in the area, 7 males and 8 females, two of which occurred in hospital. They were located in the following areas.

Area 1	...	3
„ 2	...	3
„ 3	...	9

Perinatal Mortality—Still births plus deaths of infants under 1 month of age.

Area 1	...	4
„ 2	...	7
„ 3	...	16

There were 756 babies born, 59 more than last year.

The birth rate of 26.9 per 1,000 population is 1.5 higher than last year. The death rate of 8.05 per 1,000 is .75 lower than in 1957 and the majority of the deaths were again people over the age of 55 as shown below :—

	Male	Female	Total
Under 1 year	11	7	18
1 - 4 years	1	1	2
5 - 14 „	—	—	—
15 - 24 „	2	—	2
25 - 34 „	5	2	7
35 - 44 „	3	5	8
45 - 54 „	19	6	25
55 - 64 „	30	16	46
65 and over	68	50	118
	139	87	226

During the year there were 756 births and 15 still births. The ante-natal clinics were attended by 175 mothers, or only 23%, the lowest attendance ever recorded, while 393 babies were brought to the infant welfare clinics. In addition 414 children aged 1 to 5 years attended clinics.

The number of persons on the register at all clinics was compiled as follows :—

Billingham Ante-Natal Clinic	...	...	...	134	(—50)
Haverton Hill Ante-Natal Clinic	...	...	...	41	(—23)
Billingham Infant Welfare Clinic	...	...	...	214	(+25)
Haverton Hill Infant Welfare Clinic	...	...	...	79	(+ 9)
Billingham Child Welfare Clinic (1 to 5 years)	...	...	...	333	(+20)
Haverton Hill Child Welfare Clinic (1 to 5 years)	...	...	...	81	(—38)
Birth Control Clinic	...	...	...	21	(—10)
Post Natal Clinic	...	...	...	51	(— 3)
Ultra Violet Ray Clinic	...	...	...	116	(+10)

There was a fall in the number on the register.

Attendances at the clines were :—

BILLINGHAM				HAVERTON HILL			
	1958	1957	Increase/Decrease	1958	1957	Increase/Decrease	
Mothers	701	870	— 169	185	284	— 99	
Infants	1,829	2,036	— 207	608	552	56	—
1-2 yrs.	229	185	44	52	78	— 26	
2-5 yrs.	247	280	— 33	73	123	— 50	
Totals	3,006	3,371	— 365	918	1,037	— 119	

This shows decreases of 365 at Billingham and 119 at Haverton Hill clinics, a total decrease of 484. The greatest fall (207) was in the number of attendances of infants at Billingham clinic.

At the birth control and post natal clinics there were 94 attendances, a decrease of 9 on last year.

Attendances at the ultra violet ray clinic show an increase of 330, with a figure of 1,924, as against 1,594 last year.

The following table compares the number of births with the number of mothers and children attending the ante-natal and child welfare clinics, also the rate per 100 births of those

attending the clinics for the past ten years, (percentage attendance).

Year	Births	Attending Ance- Natal Clinics	Rate per 100	Attending Infant Clinic	Rate per 100	Attending Clinics 1-5 years
1949	489	340	69	266	54	562
1950	496	298	60	251	51	541
1951	482	332	69	287	59	537
1952	471	317	67	273	58	592
1953	522	344	66	274	52	585
1954	507	290	57	237	47	534
1955	637	334	52	302	47	515
1956	670	282	42	302	45	468
1957	697	248	36	259	37	432
1958	756	175	23	293	39	414

Welfare Foods

These are distributed from the following centres :—

Child Welfare Clinic, Cowpen Lane, Billingham.

Child Welfare Clinic, Tame Street, Haverton Hill.

W.V.S. Centre, South View, Billingham.

St. Aidans Church Hall, Tintern Avenue, Billingham.

Figures for the distribution of National Welfare Foods are given below, together with the distribution during 1957 :—

	1958	1957	
National Dried Milk (tins)	5614	9611	— 3997
Cod Liver Oil (bottles)	1861	2625	— 764
Orange Juice (bottles)	15959	24054	— 8095
Vitamin Tablets (packets)	1439	1384	+ 55
	<u>24873</u>	<u>37674</u>	<u>— 12801</u>

Notifiable Diseases

There were 299 notifications of infectious diseases received during the year, a decrease of 4 on the 1957 figures. Tuberculosis notifications numbered 10 of which 9 were pulmonary cases.

Separate figures are given in the following table, which also shows the number notified and the final figures after correction. Notifications received during 1957 are included

for comparison. Tuberculosis notifications are dealt with separately.

Disease	Notified		Corrected	
	1958	1957	1958	1957
Scarlet Fever	57	61	56	60
Measles	188	206	188	206
Whooping Cough	31	10	31	10
Pneumonia	1	3	1	3
Polio (paralytic)	—	6	—	6
Polio (non-paralytic)	4	1	4	—
Food Poisoning	—	6	—	6
Erysipelas	2	2	2	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1
Dysentery	4	—	4	—
T.B. Meningitis	1	—	1	—
Total :	289	296	288	294

The following table gives the notifications in the different age groups :

Disease	Under one Year	Years								Total
		1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-25	25-over	
Scarlet Fever	—	3	10	9	16	16	2	1	—	57
Measles	14	23	36	30	24	59	2	—	—	188
Whooping Cough	4	5	3	7	3	9	—	—	—	31
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Polio (non-paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	4
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Dysentery	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	4
T.B. Meningitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Totals :	19	32	49	47	44	87	6	1	4	289

There were 4 fewer scarlet fever notifications than last year. Thirty-five cases were treated at home and 22 admitted to hospital, one of the latter being diagnosed as other than scarlet fever.

Four cases of non-paralytic poliomyelitis were notified and all were sent to hospital and confirmed. They were two males aged 12 and 6 and two females aged 5 and 10 years. All were apparently isolated cases. There was no family spread.

The following notified cases were admitted to hospital :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	22
Polio (N.P.)	...	...	4
Dysentery	...	...	3
Erysipelas	...	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	1
T.B. Meningitis	...	...	1

Notification Rate per 1,000 Population

Disease	1958	1957
Scarlet Fever	2.03	2.22
Whooping Cough	1.1	.36
Measles	6.6	7.5
Pneumonia	.04	.11

Vital Statistics

The following are extracts from the vital statistics supplied by the Registrar General :—

Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	362	367	729
Illegitimate	16	11	27
	378	378	756

=Birth rate of 26.9 per 1,000 population.

Still Births

Legitimate	6	7	13
Illegitimate	1	1	2
	7	8	15

=Rate of 28.1 per 1,000 total births

Deaths

139	87	226
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=Rate of 8.05 per 1,000 population.

Infantile Deaths

Legitimate	11	7	18
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	11	7	18

Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks

Legitimate	7	5	12
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	7	5	12

Women Dying in Consequence of Childbirth

Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion—1

Causes of Death					Male	Female	Total
Coronary Disease—Angina	...	...	...	...	27	10	37
Neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	...	11	2	13
Neoplasm—Stomach	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
Neoplasm—Breast	...	...	...	...	—	4	4
Neoplasm—Uterus	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Diseases					12	5	17
Heart Diseases	...	...	...	...	16	12	28
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System					17	18	35
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	9	3	12
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	7	3	10
Other Diseases of Respiratory System					2	—	2
Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
Tuberculosis (Other)	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Other Defined and Ill Defined Diseases					10	15	25
Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
All Other Accidents	...	...	...	...	7	1	8
Suicide	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Total :					139	87	226

Tuberculosis

The following table shows the notifications of pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis in the different age groups. Deaths are also shown :—

Age Group	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-14	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-24	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-34	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-44	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-54	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55-64	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65-up	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals :	6	3	1	—	4	—	—	—

This gives a total of 9 notifications of pulmonary and one non-pulmonary tuberculosis against 6 and 1 respectively for 1957.

There were 4 pulmonary deaths against 7 and no non-pulmonary against 1 for last year.

One of the deaths in the 65 and upwards age group was a 76 year old man who had not previously been notified to me.

At the beginning of the year there were 137 pulmonary cases (77 male and 60 female) on the register. The number at the end of the year was the same made up of 76 males and 61 females, as shown below :—

	Males		Females	
1st January, 1958	...	77	...	60
ADD				
New notifications	...	6	...	3
Transfers into area	...	2	...	4
		85		67
LESS	M	F		
Removed	1	3		
Died	3	—		
Recovered	5	3	9	6
	—	—	76	61

Pulmonary Tuberculosis—New Cases

Notifications of new cases in the various age groups are shown in the table below :—

Age Period	1958	1957
1-4	—	1
5-14	—	—
15-24	2	3
25-34	2	—
35-44	1	—
45-54	2	2
55-64	1	—
65-up	1	—
Totals :	9	6

Deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and new cases notified for the last ten years are listed below :—

Year	New Cases	Deaths
1949	21	3
1950	14	6
1951	17	5
1952	14	2
1953	19	1
1954	19	1
1955	8	3
1956	11	1
1957	6	7
1958	9	4

B.C.G. Vaccinations

B.C.G. vaccinations are performed as a routine in families where babies are likely to be exposed to infection.

Mass Radiography Unit

During 1958 the Unit made one visit to Billingham, one visit to Haverton Hill and one to the Furness Shipyard.

No cases of tuberculosis were found either at Billingham or Haverton Hill when the Unit visited these places, but Furness Shipyard proved to be rather a different matter. One case of acute pulmonary tuberculosis which required occasional supervision at the clinic was found. A case of bronchial carcinoma was also discovered and there were quite a number of other diseases which are listed in the following statistical report :—

Reverting to the seven cases of tuberculosis, two of the cases which were referred to the clinic live in Billingham and another two in Haverton Hill, the remainder residing outside the area.

Mass Radiography—Billingham Urban District, 1958.

	Billingham (Roseberry)	Haverton Hill	Furness Shipyards	Total
X-rayed on 35 mm film	903	216	1765	2884
Recalled for large film	9	2	23	34
Referred to Chest Clinic	9	2	10	21
Abnormalities Found				
Tuberculosis needing close supervision	Nil	Nil	1	1
Tuberculosis needing occasional supervision	—	—	6	6
Bronchogenic carcinoma	—	—	1	1
Cardiac abnormality	1	1	2	4
Pulmonary fibrosis	2	—	5	7
Pneumonia	1	—	1	2
Abnormal diaphragm	2	—	—	2
Bronchiectasis	—	1	—	1
Bronchitis	1	—	—	1
Totals :	7	2	16	25

Food Poisoning

There were no notifications of food poisoning received during the year.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Immunisation against diphtheria was continued with energy except for the period mid-June to mid-September, when only a small number of injections were given.

The total number of injections given was 2,354 made up as follows :—

	Booster						Total :
	1st	2nd	3rd	3rd	4th	5th	
Dip. Wh. Cough & Tetanus	371	372	372	78	21	—	1,214
Diph. and Wh. Cough	54	61	66	11	11	—	203
Diphtheria	110	98	—	384	317	28	937
Total	535	531	438	473	349	28	2,354

The number of children immunised in the age groups 0 to 4 and 5 to 15 at the end of the year was :—

0 to 4 years—of 3,304, 2,349 were immunised=71.1%

5 to 15 years—of 5,316, 5,025 were immunised=94.5%

There were 8,620 children up to 15 years in the area at the end of the year and, of these, 7,374 had received injections. This gives a total percentage of 85.5 as compared with 86.2 last year.

The number of refusals was 429 which equals 5% of the total children in the area.

At 31st December a third or boosting dose had been given to 5,939 children out of a total of 7,352 who were due for the injection, or 80.8% which is 2.3% less than last year.

In addition 4,088 out of 5,397 who were, or shortly would have been due for a fourth injection were immunised. This equals 75.7% or .2 higher than last year.

The following table shows where the injections given during the year were carried out :—

	Booster						Total
	1st	2nd	3rd	3rd	4th	5th	
Surgeries	375	376	372	117	47	—	1,287
Homes	145	143	62	293	104	—	747
Schools	1	—	—	61	191	28	281
Clinics	14	12	4	2	7	—	39
Totals :	535	531	438	473	349	28	2,354

Polio Vaccinations

During the year the following injections were given :—

	1st		2nd		3rd		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Children	1010	999	1016	1014	26	29	4,094
Exp. Mothers	—	28	—	23	—	—	51
Drs. and Families	2	2	2	2	—	—	8
Ambulance Personnel	2	—	2	—	—	—	4
	1014	1029	1020	1039	26	29	4,157

The total number of children vaccinated during the year was 2,030 (1,016 males and 1,014 females) which with 1,304 immunised in 1956/57 (636 males and 668 females) makes a total of 3,334 immunised at the end of the year, (1,652 males and 1,682 females).

The following table gives the children vaccinated in 1958, also those protected in previous years :—

Year of Birth	Males		Females		M	F	Grand Total
	1958	prev- iously	1958	prev- iously			
1958	7	—	7	—	7	7	14
1957	84	—	62	—	84	62	146
1956	104	2	96	—	106	96	202
1955	105	—	83	—	105	83	188
1954	52	63	57	42	115	99	214
1953	61	81	73	85	142	158	300
1952	53	72	59	64	125	123	248
1951	58	69	64	65	127	129	256
1950	39	89	43	84	128	127	255
1949	39	99	31	112	138	143	281
1948	39	73	33	103	112	136	248
1947	42	88	23	113	130	136	266
1946	103	—	102	—	108	102	210
1945	79	—	112	—	79	112	191
1944	98	—	101	—	98	101	199
Earlier	48	—	68	—	48	68	116
Totals :	1016	636	1014	668	1652	1682	3334

In addition to the above the following injections were given :—

	1st	2nd	Total
Expectant Mothers	28	23	51
Doctors and Families	4	4	8
Ambulance Personnel	2	2	4

Fifty-five children (26 males and 29 females) had received their third injections by the end of the year.

Late in the year the offer of vaccination was extended to include the age group 15 years up to 26 years' old, but before the end of the year very few of these had consented to be immunised.

The Nursery, Tame Street, Haverton Hill.

A table showing the the attendances is given below :—

Month	Days open	attendances Total	Daily average	Daily maximum
January	22	313	14.2	16
February	20	213	10.6	14
March	21	174	8.2	11
April	20	240	12	14
May	22	299	13.5	15
June	21	338	16	19
July	23	345	15	17
August	16	237	14.8	18
September	22	255	11.6	17
October	23	438	19.1	21
November	20	362	18.1	22
December	21	374	17.8	19

County Hostels for the Elderly

There were 23 persons, 11 males and 12 females from Billingham being maintained in County Hostels at the end of the year, as follows :—

	Male	Female
Cambridge House, Barnard Castle	3	—
Ivy House, Sedgfield ...	—	3
Parkside, Billingham ...	7	5
Owton Fens, Greatham ...	—	3
Glencliffe, Seaton Carew ...	1	1
	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>

The number of children in the care of the Children's Committee was 42.

Morbidity

A useful guide to extent of illness is provided by the number of claims each week for sickness benefit under the National Health Insurance Scheme.

Monthly statistics for the year are shown below. These give a weekly average of 127.9 and a monthly average of 554 as against 150.25 and 651 for last year. The difference is entirely attributable to the outbreak of Asian influenza in September and October of 1957. In spite of the poor summer we had no serious outbreak of illness in 1958.

The worst months for new sickness benefit claims were January and February and the best months May, June and August.

	1958	1957
January	901	655
February	813	540
March	624	564
April	559	331
May	360	565
June	385	380
July	422	457
August	335	320
September	544	1424
October	539	1332
November	524	613
December	643	632
	<u>6649</u>	<u>7813</u>

Council Offices,
Haverton Hill,
5th May, 1959.

**SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT
FOR 1958.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit herewith my thirty-third Annual Report on matters which come within the scope of my department. The report follows normal practice and there is an absence of any outstanding event except, perhaps, a house to house survey in connection with a proposed smoke control area.

New legislation affecting the department is indicated below and is referred to in the appropriate paragraph.

The Slaughterhouses Act 1958.

The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958.

The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty)
Regulations 1958.

Unlike last year there have been no staff changes and the new members have become well established into the department.

Concluding, I wish to express appreciation for the helpful consideration given by members of the Council, and particularly the chairman and members of the Public Health Committee to all matters affecting my department. Finally I wish to extend similar appreciation to the members of my staff for their loyal and competent co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. H. RUSHWORTH,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE AND OTHER DETAILS

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Complaints Investigated	...	...	...	...	...	...	695
Drains tested or inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Dwellinghouses under Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Dwellinghouses under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	127
Dwellinghouses under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	142
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	92
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	432
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Premises Under Notice	...	...	...	...	...	...	180
Public Baths	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	237
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	121
Rent Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Restaurants and Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Shops (Food Hygiene & Shops Act)	...	...	...	...	...	...	122
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,135
Smoke Control Area Survey	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,334
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Street Vendors and Hawkers Carts	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Verminous and Dirty Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Water Samples Obtained	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water Samples from Public Baths	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Works in Progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	107

NUMBER AND TYPE OF NOTICES

Informal Notices Served	...	...	...	...	205
Informal Notices Complied With	...	...	...	...	214
Statutory Notices Served	...	...	...	...	3
Statutory Notices Complied With	...	...	...	...	4

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES ABATED AND DEFECTS REMEDIED

HOUSES

Defective	Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	11
"	Eavesgutters and fallpipes	...	...	...	...	...	9
"	Walls	...	...	...	...	...	12
"	Chimney Stacks	...	...	...	...	...	1
"	Plasterwork	...	...	...	...	...	10
"	Ceilings	...	...	...	...	...	1
"	Floors	...	...	...	...	...	4
"	Doors	...	...	...	...	...	9
"	Skirting boards	...	...	...	...	...	1
"	fireplaces	...	...	...	...	...	7
"	windows	...	...	...	...	...	19
"	water pipes and water taps	...	...	...	...	...	8
"	sinks and waste pipes	...	...	...	...	...	4
"	wash hand basins	...	...	...	...	...	4
"	external paintwork	...	...	...	...	...	3
"	doorsteps	...	...	...	...	...	5
"	paths	...	...	...	...	...	5
"	garden walls	...	...	...	...	...	5
"	garden railings	...	...	...	...	...	3
"	garden gates	...	...	...	...	...	5

Miscellaneous Items

Defective	drains	...	...	...	...	...	2
"	water closets	...	...	...	...	...	8
Dustbins	provided or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	505
Blocked drains and sink pipes	cleared	...	...	...	...	...	394
Verminious premises	disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	36
Books	disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	14
Applications for Certificates of Disrepair		...	...	...	...	...	14
Certificates of Disrepair	Issued	...	...	...	...	...	3
Premises repaired under Rent Act, 1957		...	...	...	...	...	13

HOUSING

Due to the bank rate being increased to 7% in 1957, housing work has been at a standstill except for contracts in hand. Following a reduced bank rate this year a limited programme has been started with a contract for 183 houses and a pleasing feature is the number of private houses now being erected for sale. The time has not yet arrived when speculative building will erect houses to let. Houses completed during the year totalled 157, comprising 133 Council and 24 private houses. With regard to existing property, 4 individual unfit houses have been demolished and 1 closed, and repairs carried out to others where necessary. The Rent Act has been useful in this respect, and 14 certificates of disrepair have been applied for. The procedure of serving a notice on the landlord has resulted in repairs being carried out in all cases.

At this point I must repeat the reference I made in last year's report regarding the responsibility placed on tenants to indicate to the landlord what repairs are considered necessary. In most cases the tenant has only a very rough idea of what he requires and thus does not get the maximum benefit from the Act.

Improvements under the 1949 Act have made slow progress with 4 applications for grant, making a total of 20 since the Act came into operation.

OVERCROWDING

Lists obtained from a complete survey in 1952 are considered at six monthly intervals, and there are only 4 known cases. The taking of another census was considered during the year but it was considered unnecessary at the present time.

CARAVANS

This is not a problem but during the year the number of caravans on one site increased to 9. These were mostly used by mobile workers on local contract work and whatever might be the objections to this type of dwelling one must have considerable sympathy with persons who, due to the nature of their work, are unable to make a permanent home. However, with the co-operation of the site owner the caravans were reduced to one at the year end. Two caravans on another site were also removed. At the year end only two caravans were in use.

WATER

Water is supplied by the Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board. The supply has been unrestricted and is good and wholesome in quality. A random sample gave the following result :—

				Parts per 100,000
Chlorine as Chlorides	...	...	...	1.0000
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	0.0994
Ammonia	...	...	...	0.0039
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.0068
Oxygen Absorption	...	...	...	0.4012
Injurious Metals	...	...	...	None
Total Solid Matter dried @ 100°C.	...	...	...	12.0000
pH value of Sample	...	...	...	7.8
Temporary Hardness	...	0.600	Degrees.	
Permanent Hardness	...	6.900	„	
Colour of sample on Hazen Scale	...	...	Hazen	33
Appearance of Sample in 2 foot tube	...	...	Not quite clear	
Odour when heated to 50°C.	...	...	None	

Microscopical Examination

Very small deposit from $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon consisting mainly of earthy matter, vegetable debris.

Bacteriological Examination

Number of colonies on Nutrient Agar @ 37°C.	
after 72 hours	21 per ml.
Number of colonies on Nutrient Agar @	
20-22°C. after 72 hours	38 per ml.
Presumptive B. Coli Test @ 37°C. after	Negative in
72 hours	100 ml.
Clostridium Welchii Test @ 45° C. in 40 ml. ...	Negative
Residual Chlorine	0.15 p.p.m.

Observations

Both the chemical and bacteriological examination of this sample show that it is of high order of purity, free from undesirable drainage, while the deposit examined under the microscope has no hygienic significance. In my opinion the sample represents a supply which is of good and wholesome quality for all domestic purposes.

Additional bacteriological data is provided by courtesy of the Engineer and Manager of the Board :

	Av.	Max.	Min.
Colony count per ml. on yeast extract agar after 1 day at 37°C.	17	50	7
Colony count per ml. on yeast extract agar after 2 days at 37°C.	20	64	6
Colony count per ml. on yeast extract agar after 3 days at 20°C.	15	80	3
Percentage of samples giving no Presumptive Coliform reaction per 100 ml.		96.7%	
Percentage of samples showing no reaction for B. coli (Type I) per 100 ml.		97.1%	

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The 30" to 70" sewers and extensions to the sewage disposal works have been completed. This will allow for development on the Roseberry Estate and west of Road A.19 This latter area is adjacent to open country and most desirable from a housing point of view. The much deferred scheme for Cowpen Bewley has made no progress but the matter is under active consideration and it is to be hoped that the necessary pumping station will be erected in 1959 so that people living in this village will have modern amenities.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The number and type of convenience attached to private houses and shops is given below :—

Privies	...	...	...	...	30
Water Closets	...	...	...	...	9,089

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Detailed reports on refuse collection and disposal and the salvage of waste materials are attached to this report.

BAKEHOUSES

There are 5 small bakehouses which maintain a good standard of cleanliness.

SHOPS

The number and type of shops is detailed below :—

Food Shops :

Fried Fish and Chips	...	...	...	...	15
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	3
Grocers and General Dealers	...	...	...	...	61
Butchers	...	...	...	...	19
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	12
Bread and Cakes	...	...	...	...	13
Sweets, etc.	...	...	...	...	24
Cafes and Snack Bars	...	...	...	...	5

					152
Other Shops	...	...	...	...	83

235

Closing Hours

Attention to closing hours as required by the Shops Act 1950 has continued. The shopping areas have been visited mostly on Friday evenings between 9 and 10 p.m., but it is apparent that most shops close between 5 and 6 p.m. Travelling shops and vans operate much later but generally speaking these traders keep to prescribed hours. The legal position respecting this kind of trading is most unsatisfactory and should be amended.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

The work of implementing these regulations continued and as a result of notices served the previous year the following work has been carried out :—

Provision of wash hand basin	...	...	...	24
Provision of Sink	...	...	...	7
Provision of hot water to wash hand basin	...	...	...	12
Provision of hot water to sink	...	...	...	9
Provision of alternative means of heating water	...	...	...	12
Provision of accommodation for clothes	...	...	...	14
Provision of first-aid materials	...	...	...	14
Provision of hand washing facilities	...	...	...	10
Structural repairs and alterations	...	...	...	14
Additional ventilation	...	...	...	12
Re-decoration	...	...	...	18
Cleanliness	...	...	...	6
Warning re smoking	...	...	...	1
Protection of food	...	...	...	4
Covering and repair of tables, counters, etc.	...	...	...	13
Drainage	...	...	...	2
Repair and re-decoration of W.C.	...	...	...	24
Removal of extraneous materials	...	...	...	10
Notice re washing of hands	...	...	...	48
Storage of refuse	...	...	...	1
Washing facilities on vehicles	...	...	...	1

This has entailed considerable expense by the traders. In one case the whole shop was remodelled and the necessary facilities provided and in another the cost of painting and equipment was about £300. The regulations are undoubtedly useful.

Registration of Premises

The number and type of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, is given below :

Packaged ice cream	...	...	50
Preserved foods	...	...	15
Fried Fish	...	...	15

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD

A. Milk

The milk trade is now a highly organised big business. Two co-operative societies and one private firm supply nearly the whole of the district. With the exception of a small quantity of T.T. milk, all milk is pasteurised. A limited amount of heat treated milk is, of course, sterilised. There are no processing plants in the district.

Details of licences granted and premises registered are given below :—

"Tuberculin Tested"	...	...	5
"Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)"			3
"Tuberculin Tested (Sterilised)"	...		1
"Pasteurised"	...	...	12
"Sterilised"	...	...	19
Register of Retail Purveyors of Milk			17

B. Meat

Since butchers were allowed to use their own premises 4 small private slaughterhouses have been in regular use. However, during the year, one butcher has discontinued the use of his premises for slaughtering purposes. This leaves 3 in regular use in a small way. High quality animals are dressed in an expert manner and better quality meat would be difficult to find. It is possible that under the new Slaughterhouses Act at least two of these premises may not be able to meet requirements but it can be said in their favour that less satisfactory meat is produced in large abattoirs. The old fashioned type of butcher is a craftsman and takes a pride in the manner in which his meat is dressed.

The usual statistical information is given and it is of interest to note that reasons for condemnation consist only of liver flukes, which is still very prevalent, and tuberculosis, although the latter disease is only a fraction both in severity and occurrence of what it was some years ago. The influence of measures taken to eradicate bovine tuberculosis on the farm is surely being noted in the slaughterhouse.

Reference has been made to the Slaughterhouses Act 1958 and Regulations dealing with Hygiene and prevention of cruelty in these premises. These measures are most comprehensive and it is very difficult at this stage to say what effect they will have on the slaughterhouses in your area. Detailed reports on these premises will have to be made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government although the appointed day had not been fixed at the year end. If requirements are difficult to apply it could mean the gradual elimination of the small private slaughterhouse which is usually attached to the shop.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle ex- cluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	340	7	—	1,017	56
Number inspected	340	7	—	1,017	56
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	4	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	17	—	—	5	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	5.0	—	—	0.88	7.14
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcases condemned.	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.47	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

C. Other Foods

Inspection of foodstuffs resulted in a variety of goods being condemned due to unsoundness caused by punctured tins, meat in an early stage of decomposition, mouldy jam, rancid fat, etc.

Miscellaneous Foodstuffs ...	460 tins
Miscellaneous Foodstuffs ...	71 pkts.
Bacon and Ham ...	339 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Sausage ...	86 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Pressed Beef, etc. ...	270 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Tinned Pork ...	109 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Tongue ...	154 lbs.
Jam, etc. ...	7 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Cheese ...	21 lbs.
Fruit, etc. ...	19 jars.
Flour, Oatmeal, etc. ...	16 lbs.
Cake ...	33 lbs.
Fats ...	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Potatoes ...	61 lbs.
Dried Fruit ...	21 lbs.
Meat Pies ...	46

D. Adulteration

Eight samples submitted to the Public Analyst were of genuine quality.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOL

The usual information relating to attendances at the Public Baths is given below :—

	1957	1958
General Public ...	66,629	78,804
Use of Slipper Baths ...	1,566	1,998
Brine Baths ...	11	212
Private Sessions ...	1,854	1,797
Foam Baths ...	2	—

Despite increased admittance charges to meet rising costs, attendances are much higher compared with 1957. This shows that the facilities provided are appreciated. Moreover, the Baths are extensively used by schools so that scholars are taught swimming under the best conditions. It is pleasing to note that the establishment does not close down during the winter months.

Samples of water are taken after heavy bathing loads during the summer and results indicate that the water is maintained in a state of high bacterial purity. This is achieved by means of high pressure filters followed by chlorination.

AIR POLLUTION

Clean air is a very common topic nowadays which must be helpful to the general campaign. The Clean Air Act, 1956, has given powers far in advance of any previous legislation but it seems true to say that Local Authorities are being rather hesitant to make use of the provisions dealing with domestic smoke. This is understandable as the making of smoke control areas can, in some circumstances, be expensive and unpopular. In this respect one is reminded of a large city where it was proposed to pasteurise the milk supply, and as a result of a public referendum the project was heavily defeated. Following controls during the war, however, pasteurising of milk supplies was brought in on a regional basis and is accepted as a national policy to protect public health with a complete absence of protest from anyone. Diphtheria immunisation is a similar example and parents now have their children protected as a matter of course.

The moral appears to be that, once the principle of using smokeless fuel is accepted there will be no objections from householders. It seems illogical that people who protest strongly against using coke are quite prepared to accept this first class fuel when coal is difficult to obtain during the winter months. There are indications that the open coal fire is losing its popularity, probably due to cost, and householders are beginning to take a greater interest in space heating. One sign of the times is the number of people using portable oil heaters and even coal distributors can be seen carrying supplies of paraffin. Gas and electricity are being more widely used, particularly for intermittent use and Council Houses are being provided with part central heating from a back boiler. The supremacy of the open coal fire is being challenged and its use will decline in direct ratio to a public desire to have homes more adequately heated and for the air to be free from pollution.

To put the matter in a simple way, we eat, drink and breathe. Water is now pure, food free from adulteration, and only the air is suspect.

During the year a door to door canvas has been made in the area proposed as a smoke control area. This area contains more than 1,600 houses which number will increase with adjoining new development. The canvas indicated considerable sympathy for the principle of a smoke control area and provided reactive coke in sufficient quantity is available there should be no real obstacle to the proposal. A Sub-Committee appointed to consider the matter will be reporting at an early date.

During the year the remaining sections of the Clean Air

Act, 1956, came into force along with dark smoke regulations and an Alkali, etc. Works Order. The latter order is of considerable importance as it implements Section 17 which deals with special cases. A list of works registered under the Section has been received and from a strictly legal point of view the works listed are now controlled by the Alkali, &c. Works Regulations Act 1906.

In practice, however, there will be little change and it is intended to maintain the same supervision over registered plants as in the past. In this connection, I am happy to report that a very cordial relationship exists between the District Alkali Inspector and myself and matters of common interest are discussed with benefit to the overall problem.

Industrial pollution remains much the same as outlined in last year's report with "fog" conditions caused by emissions from various plants and cooling towers predominating. Under certain weather conditions this widespread "fog" is, to say the least, extremely disagreeable. I have raised the issue with chief officers of the factory and efforts are being made to reduce the nuisance. The so-called "cat" and "fish" smells have received much prominence and questions have been raised in the House of Commons. The "cat" smell is something new and strangely enough has not affected the Urban District but has caused considerable outcry in neighbouring districts. The Alkali Department was brought in to make enquiries and I have had discussions with the local District Inspector. My own observations led me to believe that the River Tees was implicated in some obscure way as, on a number of occasions, the smell could be detected near to the Tees Port Bridge. The firm concerned gave every possible assistance and after considerable research effluent from a certain plant was believed to combine with sulphur bacteria in the river and give rise to the characteristic smell. As a temporary measure this effluent is being kept out of the river and a suitable chlorination plant is being built for permanent treatment.

The "fish" smell has been one of our problems for some years but with the good will of the firm emissions are being kept within reasonable limits and £30,000 is being spent to reduce the nuisance to an absolute minimum.

Collectively, the Tees-Side Smoke Abatement Committee continues to function, meeting in different towns and collecting evidence of pollution from 56 standard deposit gauges and 17 lead peroxide instruments. The publicity and interest stimulated in this way must be beneficial.

The following is a list of the principal sources of emissions with notes thereon :—

- (1) **Pulverised fuel boilers.** On one set of boilers new individual ball mills have been fitted which has reduced the frequency of black smoke emissions caused by unbalanced fuel feed supplies.
- (2) **Cement Works.** Electric precipitators have controlled dust emissions and experiments with a new type of cyclone indicate that considerably higher efficiencies can be obtained.
- (3) **Coke Ovens.** Conditions have not altered with emissions of smoke, dust and grit. This is one of the processes covered by the Clean Air Act as presenting special difficulties.
- (4) **Water Gas Plant.** This plant appears not to have been the cause of any complaint.
- (5) **C.C.F. Plant.** The position here is altered in so far that this particular product is now being manufactured in a completely new plant adjoining Portrack Road which is some distance from the original plant. At the time the plant was proposed a meeting took place between members of the Council and the firm's officers when an assurance was given that all possible means would be taken to reduce emissions to a minimum. The plant has now been in operation for some months and is a great improvement on the old plant. Emissions consist of a white vapour which dissipates quickly and is very much less persistent compared with the old plant.

Gases are treated by :

- (i) Multiple cyclones.
- (ii) New type washers.
- (iii) Final effluent washed to remove as much steamy matter as possible.

Regarding the old plant adjoining Roscoe Road, although special enquiries have continued since August 1955, it has not been found possible to connect this plant with any particular nuisances apart from a purely local emission which has been remedied by the fitting of new bag filters on a grinding mill. Of course, emissions of a most persistent water vapour have been the cause of much local "fog." This old plant is being retained for the manufacture of a new product the effect of which is not yet known.

- (6) **Nitro-Chalk Plant.** This plant has given no cause for complaint.

- (7) **Anhydrite Dust.** Plans for improving the crushing and loading plant have not yet been settled.
- (8) **Amines Plant.** This is the plant responsible for the "fish" smell and plant for controlling emissions is nearing completion.

It has been necessary on only isolated occasions to draw attention to this nuisance. The plant management exercise care to avoid emissions and outside interest is appreciated as the smell can sometimes be picked up outside the factory before it is realised by the people responsible there is cause for complaint.

- (9) **Sulphuric Acid Plant.** Occasional emissions of acid and "fog" seem to be a normal hazard for this plant. Otherwise, emissions are well controlled and the visible fume is not excessive in quantity. There is a good relationship between the plant management and my department.
- (10) **Paint Pigment Process.** Measures referred to in previous reports to improve conditions on this factory are not yet completed. A new wash tower and precipitators are installed and a special chimney built for the purpose of preventing corrosion to brickwork is nearing completion.
- (11) **Electricity Power Station.** The new station fitted with ample size precipitators is an example of how efficient equipment of this kind can be. For most of the time emissions from the two stacks are merely a light haze. The older station has given no cause for complaint where previously black smoke emissions were too frequent. It may be that the older stations are not in use to the same extent due to new and more efficient stations coming into use.

The usual 11 standard deposit gauges and 6 lead peroxide instruments have been maintained and, in addition, observations with a daily smoke and volumetric SO₂ recorder are now being made. This is a useful instrument and another one is to be sited at a school in Marsh House Avenue on the northern boundary of the Roseberry Estate.

The usual data is given on the following page.

STANDARD DEPOSIT GAUGES
STATEMENT OF THE TOTALS AND MONTHLY
AVERAGES — YEARS 1947 - 1958

Site of Gauge	No. of months	Year	Total Solids Collected (Tons per sq. Mile)		Rainfall (Inches)	
			Total	Average	Total	Average
INDUSTRIAL						
Crawford's Shop	4	1947	1039.89	259.77	4.665	1.166
	12	1948	2638.57	219.05	19.438	1.62
	12	1949	1896.49	158.04	14.096	1.17
	11	1950	1615.49	146.86	24.550	2.23
	10	1951	1843.10	184.31	24.79	2.47
	11	1952	1304.99	118.63	16.155	1.468
	9	1953	1300.72	144.52	9.637	1.07
	11	1954	1673.82	152.16	20.40	1.85
	10	1955	1316.24	131.62	13.47	1.34
	12	1956	1480.48	123.37	20.39	1.69
	10	1957	1310.26	131.02	16.24	1.62
	10	1958	1170.02	117.00	18.39	1.84
Council Offices	3	1947	226.21	88.73	4.093	1.364
	12	1948	1170.73	97.56	19.688	1.64
	12	1949	1127.76	82.06	14.531	1.21
	11	1950	918.16	83.47	24.238	2.2
	11	1951	951.92	85.54	27.585	2.5
	10	1952	750.58	75.05	12.403	1.24
	12	1953	1013.84	84.49	15.353	1.28
	11	1954	855.12	77.73	24.33	2.21
	12	1955	961.87	80.15	16.74	1.39
	12	1956	970.92	80.91	21.31	1.77
	10	1957	895.34	89.53	14.96	1.49
	11	1958	909.33	82.66	20.73	1.88
The Vicarage	10	1949	733.51	73.35	14.097	1.4
	12	1950	1091.95	83.49	26.313	2.2
	12	1951	988.04	82.34	27.403	2.28
	12	1952	904.76	75.39	21.366	1.78
	12	1953	1105.73	92.14	16.738	1.39
	12	1954	1141.87	95.15	24.05	2.0
	12	1955	1170.13	97.51	16.53	1.37
	12	1956	1041.65	86.8	21.80	1.82
	7	1957	686.18	97.31	11.31	1.615
SEMI-INDUSTRIAL						
23 Seaton Terrace	4	1947	287.20	71.8	5.479	1.369
	12	1948	849.67	70.8	21.283	1.773
	12	1949	524.41	43.7	14.381	1.2
	12	1950	555.63	46.3	25.011	2.08
	11	1951	565.01	51.36	22.697	2.06
	12	1952	676.27	56.35	19.876	1.656
	12	1953	619.12	51.6	14.353	1.28
	12	1954	721.51	60.12	22.26	1.85
	12	1955	568.91	47.40	15.41	1.28
	12	1956	566.51	47.20	21.55	1.79
	12	1957	702.57	58.54	18.05	1.504
	12	1958	715.49	59.62	21.64	1.80
19 Windermere Avenue	6	1955	123.59	20.59	8.38	1.39
	12	1956	287.78	23.98	22.45	1.87
	5	1957	120.23	24.04	10.33	2.066
35 Tibbersley Avenue	6	1955	108.57	18.09	8.23	1.37
	12	1956	327.46	27.28	22.92	1.91
	12	1957	271.48	22.62	19.98	1.665
	12	1958	364.56	30.38	26.34	2.19

STANDARD DEPOSIT GAUGES—(contd.)

Site of Gauge	No. of Months	Year	Total Solids Collected (Tons per sq. Mile)		Rainfall (Inches)	
			Total	Average	Total	Average
RESIDENTIAL						
32 Malvern Road	10	1948	117.29	11.73	18.040	1.804
	12	1949	108.67	9.05	16.148	1.34
	12	1950	128.71	10.72	29.423	2.45
	11	1951	146.38	13.3	32.34	2.69
	12	1952	132.95	11.08	23.6	2.0
	12	1953	118.67	9.89	19.77	1.65
	12	1954	161.28	13.44	27.33	2.27
	10	1955	127.92	12.79	15.69	1.56
	12	1956	162.35	13.53	22.59	1.88
	11	1957	113.13	10.28	13.47	1.224
	12	1958	176.38	14.69	29.50	2.46
Field 23, N.E. Billingham S. ation	10	1950	109.79	10.97	18.45	1.84
	11	1951	136.77	12.43	22.13	1.84
	12	1952	175.49	14.62	17.955	1.5
	10	1953	131.33	13.13	11.07	1.1
	8	1954	109.14	13.64	9.48	1.18
	12	1955	182.21	15.18	13.80	1.15
	10	1956	181.47	18.14	18.56	1.85
	12	1957	186.43	15.53	17.43	1.46
	10	1958	154.01	15.40	16.45	1.645
R.C. Church, Grosvenor Rd.	12	1954	128.39	10.69	25.16	2.09
	12	1955	119.76	9.98	18.24	1.52
	12	1956	145.56	12.13	23.58	1.96
	11	1957	124.16	11.287	19.47	1.77
	10	1958	121.15	12.115	21.44	2.14
The Hostel, Melrose Ave.	5	1954	56.43	11.28	13.97	2.79
	11	1955	124.02	11.27	16.02	1.45
	12	1956	181.62	15.13	21.43	1.78
	12	1957	155.43	12.95	20.16	1.68
	12	1958	172.64	14.38	24.66	2.05
26 Cornwall Cres.	5	1954	90.60	18.12	14.43	2.88
	12	1955	201.87	16.82	18.07	1.50
	12	1956	303.7	25.3	23.72	1.97
	12	1957	231.75	19.31	20.52	1.71
	12	1958	236.50	19.71	26.21	2.18
109 Braemar Rd.	5	1957	71.48	14.29	8.25	1.65
	12	1958	134.47	12.22	21.27	1.93
231 Braemar Rd.	5	1957	98.83	19.76	8.51	1.702
	9	1958	163.74	18.19	18.05	2.00

WIND RECORDS—S.W. WIND

Year	No. of months	Total %age	Monthly %age
1949	12	420.0	35.0
1950	12	390.0	32.5
1951	12	446.4	37.2
1952	12	440.3	36.7
1953	12	478.4	39.9
1954	12	459.72	38.31
1955	12	273.2	22.76
1956	12	270.2	22.5
1957	12	244.4	20.36
1958	12	275.9	22.99

LEAD PEROXIDE INSTRUMENTS

STATEMENT OF THE TOTALS AND MONTHLY AVERAGES—YEARS 1949-58

Site of Instrument	No. of months	Year	Expressed as mgms. of SO ₂ per 100 sq cms per day	
			Total	Average
(INDUSTRIAL)				
Council Offices	10	1949	70.656	7.065
	12	1950	104.244	8.687
	12	1951	88.008	7.334
	12	1952	62.852	5.237
	12	1953	54.691	4.557
	12	1954	123.27	10.27
	12	1955	131.20	10.93
	12	1956	142.17	11.847
	12	1957	153.08	12.75
12	1958	137.85	11.487	
(SEMI-INDUSTRIAL)				
19 Windermere Av.	6	1955	6.02	1.00
	12	1956	17.30	1.441
	7	1957	9.13	1.304
35 Tibbersley Av.	6	1955	7.79	1.29
	12	1956	20.275	1.689
	12	1957	19.657	1.638
	12	1958	19.22	1.60
(RESIDENTIAL)				
Field 23, N.E. Billingham Station	12	1950	11.136	0.928
	12	1951	11.706	0.975
	12	1952	9.399	0.783
	12	1953	9.507	0.792
	10	1954	12.179	1.217
	12	1955	14.307	1.192
	12	1956	15.61	1.30
	12	1957	14.84	1.23
	12	1958	17.90	1.49
R.C. Church, Grosvenor Road	12	1954	10.261	0.855
	12	1955	11.596	0.966
	12	1956	10.857	0.905
	12	1957	11.93	0.99
	12	1958	12.37	1.03
The Hostel, Melrose Avenue	4	1954	6.78	1.69
	12	1955	18.965	1.580
	12	1956	21.77	1.814
	12	1957	20.56	1.71
	12	1958	19.94	1.66
109 Braemar Road	5	1957	8.43	1.686
	12	1958	17.79	1.48

LEAD PEROXIDE INSTRUMENTS MONTHLY RECORDINGS, 1958

COUNCIL OFFICES - Ind.

Months	Mgms. of SO ₂
January	18.24
February	10.85
March	5.05
April	10.13
May	12.64
June	5.21
July	8.36
August	10.65
September	10.26
October	17.24
November	13.79
December	15.43
12	137.85

Av. 11.487

35 TIBBERSLEY AVENUE

Months	Semi-Ind Mgms. of SO ₂
January	2.27
February	2.15
March	3.10
April	1.40
May	1.38
June	1.34
July	0.70
August	0.56
September	1.25
October	1.11
November	1.87
December	2.09
12	19.22

Av. 1.60

FIELD 23 - Resid.

Months	Mgms. of SO ₂
January	2.74
February	1.95
March	1.38
April	0.74
May	1.31
June	0.76
July	0.51
August	0.68
September	1.45
October	1.54
November	2.12
December	2.72
12	17.90

Av. 1.49

R.C. CHURCH, GROSVENOR ROAD - Resid.

Months	Mgms. of SO ₂
January	1.64
February	1.42
March	1.87
April	0.72
May	0.80
June	0.81
July	0.43
August	0.42
September	0.67
October	0.89
November	1.32
December	1.38
12	12.37

Av. 1.03

THE HOSTEL, MELROSE AVENUE - Resid.

Months	Mgms. of SO ₂
January	2.76
February	2.23
March	2.14
April	1.39
May	1.32
June	1.14
July	0.80
August	0.76
September	1.11
October	1.63
November	2.44
December	2.22
12	19.94

Av. 1.66

109 BRAEMAR ROAD - Resid.

Months	Mgms. of SO ₂
January	2.82
February	1.97
March	1.70
April	0.96
May	1.16
June	0.74
July	0.60
August	0.61
September	0.96
October	1.57
November	2.35
December	2.35
12	17.79

Av. 1.48

VOLUMETRIC SO₂ RECORDER AND COMBINED SMOKE FILTER

Month	SO ₂ in Vols/100 million vols. in air. Average	Smoke Concentrations in air in mgms. per 100 cu. metres. Average
March	7.1	34
April	13.2	36
May	19.67	31
June	9.17	21
July	11.22	30
August	16.62	30
September	17.36	36
October	36.81	39
November	32.45	80
December	35.20	54.5

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Enquiries have been made into cases of Scarlet Fever, Poliomyelitis, Dysentery and gastro-enteritis. Such enquiries are made with a view to preventing secondary cases, particularly of the enteric type of disease, but delay which sometimes unavoidably occurs with notifications reduces the value of such work. The importance of good personal hygiene is impressed on contacts and wherever possible faecal specimens are sent to the Public Health Laboratory.

As customary, library books removed from infected homes have been disinfected before recirculation and a supply of disinfectant is freely available.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

Complaints of verminous premises related to 34 Council houses and 5 private houses, which were of a minor character. Clover mites have again been in evidence but the Malathion type of insecticide gives adequate control.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

This work has continued in the normal way, the services of a rodent operator being shared with a neighbouring authority. From the summary given below it will be seen that visits and necessary treatments have been maintained on much the same level as during the previous year. This is a clear indication that efforts to keep down infestations cannot be relaxed. It should be noted that no major infestations of rats or mice occurred and premises involved were in all parts of the district. The essence of rodent control work is prompt attention to all complaints and inspection of

likely sources of infestation. Minor cases are thereby prevented from developing into something more serious.

			1957	1958
Premises visited	...	...	304	273
Inspections made	...	...	306	285
Treatment visits	...	...	455	521
Premises treated	...	...	101	108
Major infestations found (rats)	...	...	1	—
Minor infestations found (rats)	...	...	114	111
Serious infestations found (mice)	...	...	—	—
Minor infestations (mice)	...	...	11	16
Sewer treatments	...	...	2	2
Manholes prebaited	...	...	342	302
Manhole poison takes	...	...	20	11

ANNUAL REPORT ON REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL FOR THE YEAR 1958/59

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit herewith my Annual Report on the collection and disposal of household and shop refuse. A separate report on the salvage of waste materials is attached hereto.

In many respects the year has been much easier than the previous one. For instance, due to a reduction in the high level of local employment, labour has been available, the winter has not been as severe, and there has been a marked reduction in sickness and absenteeism. These factors have considerable influence on regularity of collections and as a result a more frequent weekly service has been provided than at any time since the war.

Concluding, I wish to pay tribute to the foreman and men for conscientiously carrying out their duties during all kinds of weather to give a service which, I believe, is generally appreciated by householders.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. H. RUSHWORTH,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

MANUAL LABOUR

The number of men employed and the nature of their work is as follows :—

Foreman	...	...	...	...	1
Mechanic	...	...	...	...	1
Refuse collection and Salvage of Waste Materials	...	...	...	...	19
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	1
Drivers	...	...	...	...	5
					—
					27
					—

As stated, labour has been no problem and to show what this means, the number of man hours worked by refuse collectors is given compared with 1957/58 :—

1957/58	1958/59
37,324	41,200

This is a better index than the number of men employed and explains why expenditure corresponded with estimates, whereas the previous year there was a considerable amount underspent in spite of a continuous period of overtime working. After allowing for an extra man during 1958/59 there remains a difference of some 1,588 hours. Sick pay is reduced by more than half and there are fewer days lost due to absenteeism.

Sick Pay		Absence
Days	Amount	Days
365	£396 14 7	78
(859)	(£814 5 5)	(95)

Wages amount to 80.8% of the gross cost of the service.

VEHICLES

A stage has now been reached where it will be necessary to have additional vehicle capacity. Since the last machine was bought in 1955 some 1,285 properties have been built and if a large capacity machine is out of use for only a short period the spare side loader is unable to cope with the work.

During the year a small van has been provided for the department and is proving very useful.

In the following tables details of reliability, running costs and work done are given. Vehicles number 4 and 5 are increasingly more difficult to keep in reasonable condition and more expensive to run on a tonnage basis. Total mileage run is slightly less, probably due to a slight re-organisation of collection rounds.

Reliability

Vehicle	Possible No. of hours	No. of hours lost for repairs	Percentage of hours worked
No. 1	2242 (2214)	214 (187)	90.5 (91.6)
No. 4	2066 (1526)	243 (303)	88.2 (80.2)
No. 5	1060 (2070)	268 (271)	74.7 (86.9)
No. 6	2245 (2342)	58 (59)	97.4 (97.5)
No. 7	2264 (2290)	101 (93)	95.5 (95.9)
Angle- dozer	890 (999)	134 (99)	84.9 (90.1)
5 cwts. Van (3 months)	254	17	93.8

RUNNING COSTS

Vehicle	Capacity cu. yds.	Total Cost	Driver's Wages	Insurances and Licences	Fuel and Oil	Maintenance and Repairs	Equipment Etc.
No. 1 (Diesel) (1955)	19.5/25	£932 10 11 (£1088 19 11)	497 11 4 (519 15 5)	90 12 10 (91 7 10)	148 1 3 (178 13 5)	190 16 8 (296 1 8)	5 8 0 (3 0 7)
No. 4 (1946)	11.3	£857 7 1 (£631 11 3)	467 9 6 (276 2 5)	46 9 10 (46 13 10)	165 16 5 (147 15 6)	172 3 4 (157 18 11)	5 8 0 (3 0 7)
No. 5 (1947)	11.3	£529 11 8 (£754 11 3)	209 4 7 (422 4 11)	46 13 10 (46 13 10)	92 9 5 (151 11 4)	175 15 10 (131 0 6)	5 8 0 (3 0 7)
No. 6 (1950)	13.5/18	£1036 7 5 (£1032 6 8)	561 3 9 (574 12 4)	72 15 2 (72 15 2)	256 9 9 (320 9 11)	140 10 9 (61 8 8)	5 8 0 (3 0 7)
No. 7 (1953)	16/18	£1052 16 0 (£1014 9 6)	556 9 10 (526 18 0)	83 3 2 (82 8 2)	260 9 9 (297 17 8)	147 5 3 (104 5 1)	5 8 0 (3 0 7)
Angle-dozer (1956)		£419 1 3 (£473 13 8)	189 4 7 (235 4 5)	6 2 4 (5 12 4)	24 4 2 (36 0 3)	194 2 2 (157 16 1)	5 8 0 (3 0 7)
Morris Van (1959) (3 months)	5 cwts.	£57 6 7	—	21 8 0	15 0 0	20 18 7	—

NUMBER AND WEIGHT OF LOADS REMOVED AND MILES PER LOAD AND FUEL CONSUMPTION

Vehicle	No. of Loads	Weight per Load	Total Weight	Mile-age	Fuel	Miles per Gallon	Miles per Load
Salvage		T. C.	TONS		GALLS		
			207 (149)			.	
No. 1	493 (464)	4 0 (4 0)	1972 (1856)	4814 (4547)	700 (708)	6.9 (6.4)	9.8 (9.8)
No. 4	772 (443)	1 0 (1 0)	772 (443)	5946 (4033)	813 (583)	7.3 (6.9)	7.7 (9.1)
No. 5	305 (608)	1 0 (1 0)	305 (608)	2919 (5391)	411 (646)	7.1 (8.3)	9.6 (8.9)
No. 6	614 (549)	3 0 (3 0)	1842 (1647)	5416 (5434)	1259 (1385)	4.3 (3.9)	8.8 (9.9)
No. 7	753 (700)	3 0 (3 0)	2259 (2100)	5397 (1605)	1268 (1251)	4.3 (4.9)	7.2 (8.7)
	2937 (2764)		7357 (6803)	24492 (25510)	4451 (4573)		

REFUSE COLLECTION AND SALVAGE

Reference has already been made to improved collections which is a source of satisfaction not only to the general public but to the department also. Public holidays are rather difficult, particularly Easter when collections are not made for four days, as the service is not sufficiently flexible to make up this loss immediately. Shop refuse is collected weekly at a charge of 30/- per bin, per year.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

All refuse is tipped in a disused quarry at Wolviston but a decision has not yet been made as to final levels which could affect tipping space. However, agreement has been reached regarding a new site in a sand and gravel quarry which will provide ideal facilities for many years.

Controlled tipping is used by the majority of Local authorities providing, as it does, a hygienic, economical method of disposing of household refuse. There is some talk of composting refuse with sewage sludge to produce a useful organic fertilizer but at the moment there is not much data regarding operating costs and capital cost is assumed to be high.

During the year disposal has cost 3s. 0d. per ton.

NUMBER AND TYPE OF RECEPTACLES

Dust bins	...	...	...	9,008
Privies	...	...	...	30
Ashpits	...	...	...	4

COST

This is a section to which careful thought is given and every effort made to provide the most efficient and economical service. Attached is the usual copy of the Public Cleansing Costing Return supplied to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Total net cost is increased by £940 which is about 50% less than the previous year and is caused by a wage increase and labour estimated for being available.

Disposal has cost more due to an improved salvage bonus being charged to this item, but is mostly offset by extra income.

Another item of interest concerns transport the cost of which, compared with labour on a percentage basis has decreased since 1954/55, an indication that more work is being done by the same number of vehicles.

Regarding unit costs, net cost per ton is less than the previous year but the net cost per 1,000 population and per 1,000 premises is slightly increased. The individual yard stick of cost per bin per week remains the same at 8½d.

APPENDIX II—SALVAGE OF WASTE MATERIALS.

For the year ended 31st March, 1959.

EXPENDITURE				INCOME																													
								1957/58			1958/59																						
								T		C		Q		£		s. d.		T		C		Q		£		s. d.							
Wages Etc:—				Waste Paper :—				99		9		0		745		17		9		137		4		3		1,029		5		8			
Wages, holiday pay, sick pay, superannuation and insurance ...				Mixed ...				44		6		1		420		19		6		51		17		1		492		13		10			
Bonus ...				Fibreboard ...				—		—		—		—		—		—		13		5		0		129		3		0			
				Newspapers ...				143		15		1		1,166		17		3		202		7		0		1,651		2		6			
1,390 13 3				2,076 12 10																													
Working Expenses:				Textiles, etc. ...				1		14		2		38		17		0		4		5		2		61		17		0			
Baling Wire, etc.								69		3		2		32		4		1															
Hut, etc. ...										3		9		5		7																	
Clothing ...								3		0		7		2		15		2															
72 7 6				35 4 10										2		0		0		2		0½				4		17		6			
Total Expended ...				Scrap Metal... ...				3		6		0		14		17		0		—		—		—		—		—		—			
1,463 0 9				2,111 17 8																													
Balance—																																	
Loss ...								240		9		6		394		0		8															
1,222 11 3				1,717 17 0						148		16		3		1,222		11		3		206		14		2½		1,717		17		0	

The above is a statement of expenditure and income on the collection of waste materials with details of the previous year, for comparison. Salvage is practically confined to paper, as only small amounts of textiles and metals are recovered. Light scrap, such as worn out dust bins and similar articles, is almost unsaleable.

In recent years, a restrictive quota on waste paper has been in operation on account of large stocks which had accumulated at the mills. The position has now eased and mixed waste and cardboard can be sent in any quantity but newspaper, too much of which weakens the finished board, is restricted to 3 tons per quarter, which is unfortunate as a much greater quantity is available. Since restrictions were removed six months ago on mixed waste and cardboard, increased quantities have been collected with a consequent increase in revenue.

On the expenditure side, it will be noticed that bonus has been more than doubled. This is due to two reasons. First, increased collections. Second, a new system of bonus payment which is 50% of total income. This is given as an incentive to increase salvage collection and also to give the men a small increase in income to encourage them to stay with the department. Although the basic wage is good there is little scope for overtime which gives men in local industries additional earnings. Men on baling work have worked Saturday mornings to cope with the increased paper collected.

A. H. RUSHWORTH,
Senior Public Health Inspector.

APPENDIX I
PUBLIC CLEANSING COSTING RETURN
For the year ended 31st March, 1959.

Item	Particulars 1	Coll'tion 2	Disposal 3	Totals 4	%age 5
	REVENUE ACCOUNT.	£	£	£	
1	GROSS EXPENDITURE .				
	(i) Labour	10,579	2,231	12,810	67
	(ii) Transport	5,575	600	6,175	32
	(iii) Plant, equipment, land and buildings	108	102	210	1
	(iv) Other items	—	—	—	—
	(v) Total gross expenditure	16,262	2,933	19,195	100
2	GROSS INCOME	192	1,820	2,012	—
3	NET COST	16,070	1,113	17,183	—
4	Capital expenditure met from revenue (included in above)	—	—	—	—
	UNIT COSTS.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
5	Gross cost per ton, labour only	28 9	6 1	34 10	
6	Gross cost per ton, transport only	15 2	1 7	16 9	
7	Net cost (all expenditure) per ton	43 8	3 0	46 8	
		£	£	£	
8	Net cost per 1,000 population	572	40	612	
9	Net cost per 1,000 premises	1,766	122	1,888	
	OPERATIONAL STATISTICS				
10	Area (statute acres)—land and inland water			10,663 acres.	
11	Population at 30th June, 1958			28,090 persons	
12	Total refuse collected (tons) Estimated			7,357 tons.	
13	Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day			14.3 cwts.	
14	Number of premises from which refuse is collected			9,099 premises.	
15	Premises from which collections are made at least once weekly			100%	
16	Average haul, single journey to final disposal point (including nil miles by secondary transport)			2½ miles.	
17	Kerbside collection expressed as estimated percentage of total collection			Nil %	
18	Total refuse disposed of (of which nil tons were disposed of for other local authorities)			7,357 tons.	
19	Method of disposal :				
20	Controlled tipping			100%	
	Salvage. Analysis of income and tonnage:			Income (included in Item 2)	Tonnage Collected
	Salvage :			£	tons
	(a) Raw Kitchen Waste			—	—
	(b) Scrap Metal			—	—
	(c) Waste Paper			1,651	202½
	(d) Other Salvage			67	4½
				1,718	207
21	Trade Refuse :			251	126

